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YOUMANS INDICTED FOR KIDNAPPING, CARJACKING AND USE OF A FIREARM

BALTIMORE, Maryland - Thomas M. DiBiagio, United States Attorney for the District of Maryland, announced that a federal grand jury has indicted Karief Youmans, age 22, of Camden, New Jersey today for crimes committed in connection with kidnapping, carjacking and use of a firearm during a crime of violence.

According to the criminal complaint filed prior to today's indictment, on November 15, 2003 Youmans entered the Harford County residence of Joseph Neal and forced Neal at gunpoint to drive Youmans in Neil's Chevy Blazer to Philadelphia. While on Route 22 and near 195, Neil stopped his vehicle, jumped out and fled. Youmans drove off in the Chevy Blazer. Later that night, Hasim Aktoprak was kidnapped and taken to Philadelphia. Aktoprak later escaped and notified Philadelphia police. Youmans was arrested in Philadelphia on November 17, 2003.

The 4-count indictment charges Youmans with carjacking a 1998 Chevy Blazer from Joseph Neil, and kidnapping Hasim Aktoprak. Youmans is also charged with using and carrying a firearm during the carjacking and kidnapping.

Youmans faces a maximum sentence of life in prison.

An indictment is not a finding of guilt. An individual charged by indictment is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty at some later criminal proceedings.

The criminal charges in this indictment are the result of a joint investigation by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Maryland State Police and the United States Attorney's Office. The case is being prosecuted by U.S. Attorney Thomas M. DiBiagio.